GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3835
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2005
AVERAGE INCOME OF INDIAN FARMERS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the methods adopted by the Government for increasing the average income of Indian farmers as well as achieve the target to average 4 per cent growth in the Tenth Plan period;

(b) whether any proposal to encourage value added agriculture for the achievement of expected growth; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and assistance provided to States in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) to (c): The present policy of diversification of agriculture, promotion of agri-business and value addition in agriculture aims to accelerating the pace of agricultural growth and enhancing the income of the farmers. The regionally differentiated strategy based on various agro-climatic, agronomic and environmental conditions is being pursued under the National Agriculture Policy to realize the full potential of growth across the country so as to achieve the targeted growth rate. These measures lead to increase in productivity, which in turn reduces the cost of production and enhances the income levels of the farmers. Further, the Government announces every year the Minimum Support Prices of 25 specified crops, which aim at providing remunerative prices to the farmers. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Horticulture Mission has been launched during the current year with a total outlay of Rs.2300.00 crores for the Tenth Five Year Plan for doubling the horticulture production. Of this, Rs.630.00 crores has been provided during 2005-06. During the Tenth Plan, Government of India shall provide 100 per cent assistance to the State Missions and during Eleventh Plan, the assistance will be 85 per cent and remaining 15 per cent to be contributed by the State Governments